



United States
Department of
Agriculture

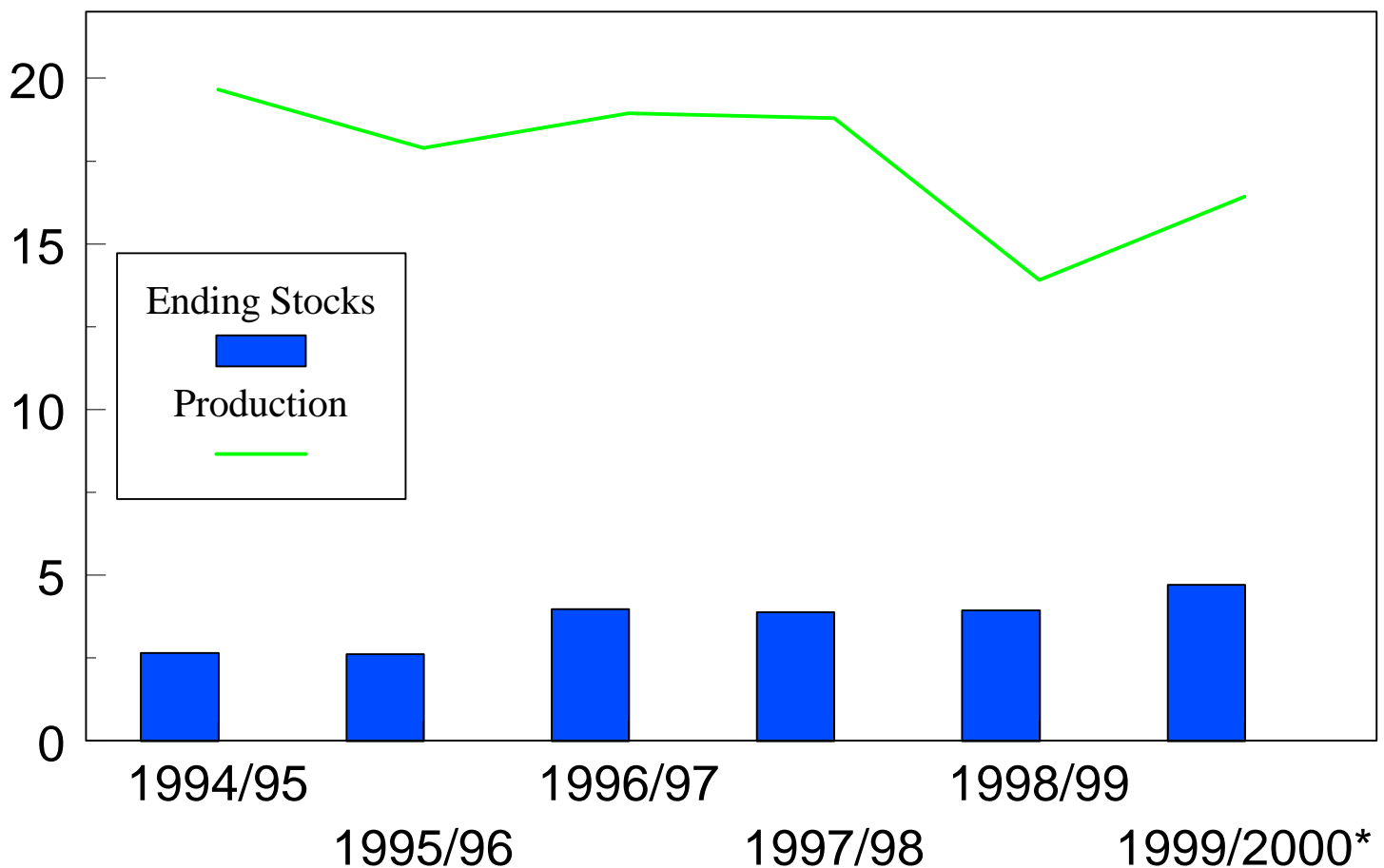
Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Circular Series
FC 10-99
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Cotton: World Markets and Trade

United States Cotton Production Forecast Down 1.1 Million Bales From Previous Month

Million 480-lb. bales



*Forecast

United States cotton production is forecast down 1.1 million bales from the September forecast due to adverse weather in the Southeast, including the impact of Hurricane Floyd on North Carolina's crop, in which 60,000 acres were lost and yield potential on many other fields was greatly reduced. The U.S. crop is forecast above the previous year by 18 percent, but below the 5-year average by 8 percent. Ending stocks are forecast down from last month, but remain at the highest level since 1988/89, and comprise 11.5 percent of world stocks, an increase of 2 percentage points from last year.